

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of presenting data over a network comprising:
  - providing a persistent graphical object representing a rotating globe;
  - presenting said graphical object in a composition accessed by an initial application, said object having state and having one or more possible external connections;
  - allowing a user to indicate relocation of said graphical object to a location outside of said initial application; and
  - thereafter moving said graphical object to said outside location, preserving state of said graphical object.
- 10 2. The method according to claim 1 wherein said graphical object, once relocated, will persist and maintain state after termination of said initial application.
3. The method according to claim 1 wherein said initial application location is selected from the group consisting of:
  - a web browser and said composition is a web page, or
  - 15 a desktop provided by an operating system.
4. The method according to claim 1 wherein said overlay images location is selected from the group consisting of:
  - one or more hyperlinks to other information available over a network;
  - one or more images indicating weather in various location; and
  - 20 one or more links indicating news stories related to a particular location displayed on said globe.
5. The method according to claim 1 wherein said relocation may be repeated from a current location to any number of additional platforms.
6. The method according to claim 3 wherein said desktop provided by an operating system is an interface of a platform, said platform selected from the group consisting of: a windows PC, a Macintosh PC, a Unix-type operating system, a set-top box, a wireless logic appliance, internet appliance, a personal digital assistant, or any other device connected to a network.
- 25 7. The method according to claim 1 wherein said new location is selected from the group consisting of: a desktop providing by an operating system; a different application; a different computer platform with a different operating system.

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8. The method according to claim 1 wherein said graphical object comprises:  
one or more user interface components and wherein said components are preserved after a  
relocation; and  
one or more connections to one or more external entities and wherein said connections are  
5 preserved after a relocation.

9. The method according to claim 1 wherein said allowing a user to indicate relocation  
comprises selecting and dragging a graphical object.

10. The method according to claim 1 wherein said allowing a user to indicate relocation  
comprises discontinuously selecting a graphical object and placing said object in a new location.  
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11. The method according to claim 8 wherein said one or more external entities are selected  
from the group consisting of: web servers, other applications, background processes, and other remote  
processes.  
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12. A system presenting web content comprising:  
a information appliance displayable representation of a globe, where the globe is displayed using  
3D software rendering;  
a logic module that projects web content onto the surface said representation of a globe;  
wherein said content appears on the globe at geographic locations associated with said content.  
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13. A system according to claim 12 further wherein said representation of a globe can be  
accessed through a web browser as embedded in a web page and/or can reside on an operating system  
20 desktop (PC and/or Mac and/or other platform) and/or can be executed as a stand-alone application in  
a window and further wherein the same functionality is provided in any location.  
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14. A system according to claim 12 further wherein web content is rendered on the globe as  
channels, wherein a channel is a set of related content from a content provider, or an association of  
content providers, or a broker of web content, and wherein content items in a channel have some  
25 geographical distribution.  
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15. A system according to claim 14 further wherein content items can be associated with  
points on said representation of a globe or areas on said representation of a globe.  
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16. A system according to claim 14 further wherein a pointer cursor is moved over a content  
item a text will pop up revealing details about the content item.  
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17. A system according to claim 14 further wherein active content items can have actions associated with them to be triggered when the user selects a content item.

18. A system according to claim 17 further wherein said actions are one or more selected from the group consisting of:

- 5 opening a web browser with a URL link as a parameter;
- bringing content to the globe with a parameter the web address of content;
- initiation of communication to another globevoii user through email, chat, or sending an instant message;
- submitting an HTTP post that initiates or completes a web service associated with a channel provider, such as booking a flight with a travel agency and with the parameters being an IP request address and post data.

10 19. A system according to claim 14 further wherein channels are defined using XML format, describing content in terms of geographic position, click-action, parameter for the click action, etc.

15 20. A system according to claim 19 further wherein channels may have reference to Envoii sub-compositions to be added dynamically to a GlobeVoii application, providing a unique interface and behavior for a given channel and wherein these references are used to retrieve the Envoii sub compositions from a web server.

21. A system according to claim 14 further wherein channels are licensed to channel providers on a pay per channel; pay per end user; or a pay per user action basis.

20 22. A system according to claim 14 further wherein a texture map rendered on said representation of a Globe is part of a separate 2D rendering system, said 2D rendering system comprising a local display managing system for managing repainting damages.

25 23. A system according to claim 14 further wherein a representation of a globe displays real time daylight illumination of the Earth using 3D shading with the lighting source being the correct relative position of the sun to the Earth.